

Hearts respond to Barnsley criticism over Stendel appointment

Hearts have responded to a statement from Barnsley FC regarding manager Daniel Stendel.

The English Championship club had this to say about Stendel who was previously in charge of the Yorkshire outfit:

"After two months of unproductive discussions (and the subsequent public announcement by Heart of Midlothian that he has joined them as their new manager), the club cannot wait any longer in speaking to its fans," the statement said.

"More recently we have attempted negotiations of a settlement with Heart of Midlothian Football Club for the services of Mr Stendel, Chris Stern, and Dale Tonge to no avail.

"The club will continue to vigorously defend its rights against all parties involved in tampering of club staff, so the club recovers all damages incurred. All recovered damages will be reinvested in our squad."

For their part Hearts have responded with a statement of their own:

"We are aware of the statement released by Barnsley Football Club earlier today in relation to our appointment of Daniel Stendel to the post of First Team Manager.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Heart of Midlothian Football Club, we would like to reassure our supporters that

we have followed all proper procedures in appointing Daniel Stendel. He was not an employee of Barnsley Football Club when we first consulted him and there is no basis on which Heart of Midlothian Football Club is liable to Barnsley Football Club. Misleading reports and statements to the contrary elsewhere are entirely false. Should any claim be commenced against Heart of Midlothian Football Club, it will be defended in the strongest possible terms.

We are looking forward to supporting Daniel in what we hope will be a long and successful tenure at Heart of Midlothian. Given that we consider any threatened claim to be entirely without merit, we do not propose to comment further on this matter."

Stendel's first game in charge of Hearts is this Saturday against St Johnstone at Tynecastle.

Photo: www.heartsfc.co.uk